

Amendment to the Claims:

1. (currently amended) An apparatus for transferring information between a network and a storage device, the apparatus comprising:
  - a host computer having a CPU operating a file system and a host memory connected to said CPU by a host bus, and
  - an interface device coupled to said host computer, to the network and to the storage device, said interface device including an interface memory containing an interface file cache adapted to store data that is communicated between the network and the storage device under control of said file system,
  - wherein said host computer is configured to designate a ~~Uniform~~ User Datagram Protocol socket that is accessible by said interface device, and said interface device is configured to communicate said data between the network and the file cache according to said ~~Uniform~~ User Datagram Protocol socket.
2. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said host computer is configured to create an application layer header that is accessible by said interface device, and said interface device is configured to prepend said application layer header to said data.
3. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said host computer is configured to create a Realtime Transport Protocol header that is accessible by said interface device, and said interface device is configured to prepend said Realtime Transport Protocol header to said data.
4. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said data is stored with an associated ~~Uniform~~ User Datagram Protocol header, and said interface device includes a mechanism configured to process said ~~Uniform~~ User Datagram Protocol header.
5. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said data is prepended with a ~~Uniform~~ User Datagram Protocol header by said interface device to create a

~~Uniform~~ User Datagram Protocol datagram, and said interface device includes a mechanism configured to divide said datagram into plural fragments.

6. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said data is disposed in plural fragments, and said interface device includes a mechanism configured to concatenate said fragments corresponding to a ~~Uniform~~ User Datagram Protocol header[[],].

7. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said data does not enter said host computer.

8. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said data includes audio data.

9. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said data includes video data.

10. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said data is a part of a realtime communication.

11. (currently amended) An apparatus for transferring information between a network and a peripheral device, the apparatus comprising:

a host computer having a processor connected to a host memory by a host memory bus, said host memory containing an application operable by the processor to designate a ~~Uniform~~ User Datagram Protocol socket, and

an interface device connected to said host computer and coupled between the network and the peripheral device, said interface device including an interface memory adapted to store data corresponding to said ~~Uniform~~ User Datagram Protocol socket and a mechanism configured to associate said data with a ~~Uniform~~ User Datagram Protocol header corresponding to said ~~Uniform~~ User Datagram Protocol socket such that said data is communicated between the network and the peripheral device without encountering said host computer.

12. (original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said host computer contains a file system and said interface memory includes a file cache adapted to store said data, wherein said file system manages storage of said data in said file cache.
13. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said data travels over the network in at least one packet containing a ~~Uniform~~ User Datagram Protocol header, and said interface device includes circuitry configured to process said ~~Uniform~~ User Datagram Protocol header.
14. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said data travels over the network in plural fragments corresponding to a ~~Uniform~~ User Datagram Protocol header, and said interface device is configured to concatenate said data with said ~~Uniform~~ User Datagram Protocol header.
15. (original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said host computer is configured to create a Realtime Transport Protocol header that is accessible by said interface device, and said interface device is configured to prepend said Realtime Transport Protocol header to said data.
16. (original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said data includes audio data.
17. (original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said data includes video data.
18. (original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said data is a part of a realtime communication over the network.

19. (cancelled)

20. (cancelled)

21. (new) An apparatus for transferring information between a network and a storage device, the apparatus comprising:

a host computer having a CPU operating a file system and a host memory connected to said CPU by a host bus, and

an interface device coupled to said host computer, to the network and to the storage device, said interface device including an interface memory containing an interface file cache adapted to store data that is communicated between the network and the storage device under control of said file system,

wherein said host computer is configured to designate a User Datagram Protocol socket that is accessible by said interface device, and said interface device has means for communicating said data between the network and the file cache according to said User Datagram Protocol socket.

22. (new) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein said host computer is configured to create an application layer header that is accessible by said interface device, and said interface device is configured to prepend said application layer header to said data.